

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings shows an added Figure 30.

Attachment: New Sheet 15/15, showing added Figure 30.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants' representative acknowledges the courtesy extended by Examiner Pascua in a telephone interview of 14 June, 2006. Applicants hereby affirm the election of the invention of Group I, claims 1 to 5, without traverse.

Claims 6 to 20 have been canceled.

Specification

The specification has been amended to complement the change in the Drawings discussed below. The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added; support for the changes can be found at e.g. page 9, lines 2 to 7, Figure 5, and original claim 5.

Drawings

The Office Action of June 23, 2006 at page 3, paragraph 8 raised an objection to the drawings with respect to the discontinuous layer of radiation cured adhesive of claim 5. An additional drawing sheet is attached hereto, including new Figure 30. This added Figure is similar in most respects to Figure 5, but shows a discontinuous radiation adhesive layer 242. The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added; support for the changes can be found at e.g. page 9, lines 2 to 7, Figure 5, and original claim 5.

35 U.S.C. §102

On page 4 of the Office Action, at paragraphs 9 and 10, claims 1, 2, 5, and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,566,927 to Wood. Applicants respectively traverse this rejection with respect to the amended claims now presented. Wood discloses bonding of webs by only one type of radiation: electron beam radiation. The claims as now amended are limited to an ultraviolet radiation cured adhesive layer bonding the first and second panels together. The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added, support for the amendment being found i.a. at page 12, lines 3 to 14; page 14, lines 25 to 29; page 15, lines 27 to 31; page 22, Table 1; page 23, lines 1 to 11, and 16 to 17; page 24, lines 17 to 18; and page 25, lines 7 to 25.

It will be noted that the title of the Wood patent is "Pattern Bonding of Webs by Electron Beam Curing". The abstract, description, and claims of the Wood patent likewise all seem to be focused on and directed solely to electron beam radiation, especially electron curtain™ processing (see e.g. column 3, lines 38 to 48 and column 8, lines 44 to 47).

The claims as amended therefore are not anticipated by Wood.

35 U.S.C. §103

On page 5 of the Office Action, at paragraphs 11 and 12, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wood.

Applicants respectively traverse this rejection for the reasons herein.

As noted above, the title of the referenced invention is "Pattern Bonding of Webs by Electron Beam Curing". The abstract, description, and claims of the Wood patent likewise seem to be focused on and directed only to electron beam radiation.

UV radiation is disclosed in the reference as an alternative that should *not* be pursued. At Column 3, line 63 through Column 4, line 2, Wood teaches:

No other known technology Ultra Violet, Infrared, Ionization, etc. can deliver the 30,000 fold greater energy of E.B. (UV=3 electron volts versus E.B.=100,000 electron volts) nor penetrate dense opaque packaging materials as are used in the pouch and bag constructions for today's market. Also, UV and IR impart relatively high heat to the materials they radiate whereas EB is a cool process.

Applicants respectfully submit that this teaching appears on its face to teach away from the invention as now claimed. The cited language of Wood clearly meets the test of *In re Fulton* (73 USPQ 1141) in that Wood criticizes and discourages the use of other radiation systems, including specifically ultraviolet radiation (MPEP 2145 X D.).

Claim 21 has been added to claim specifically an end seal bag in accordance with amended claim 1. No new matter has been added, support for claim 21 being found at i.a. page 8, line 23 to page 9, line 11 of the specification, and Figures 1 and 2.

Claim 22 has been added to claim specifically a side seal bag in accordance with amended claim 1. No new matter has been added, support for claim 21 being found at i.a. page 9, line 12 to page 10, line 4 of the specification, and Figures 3 and 4.

The applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to consider the above discussion, and to allow the claims as now presented. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1765.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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